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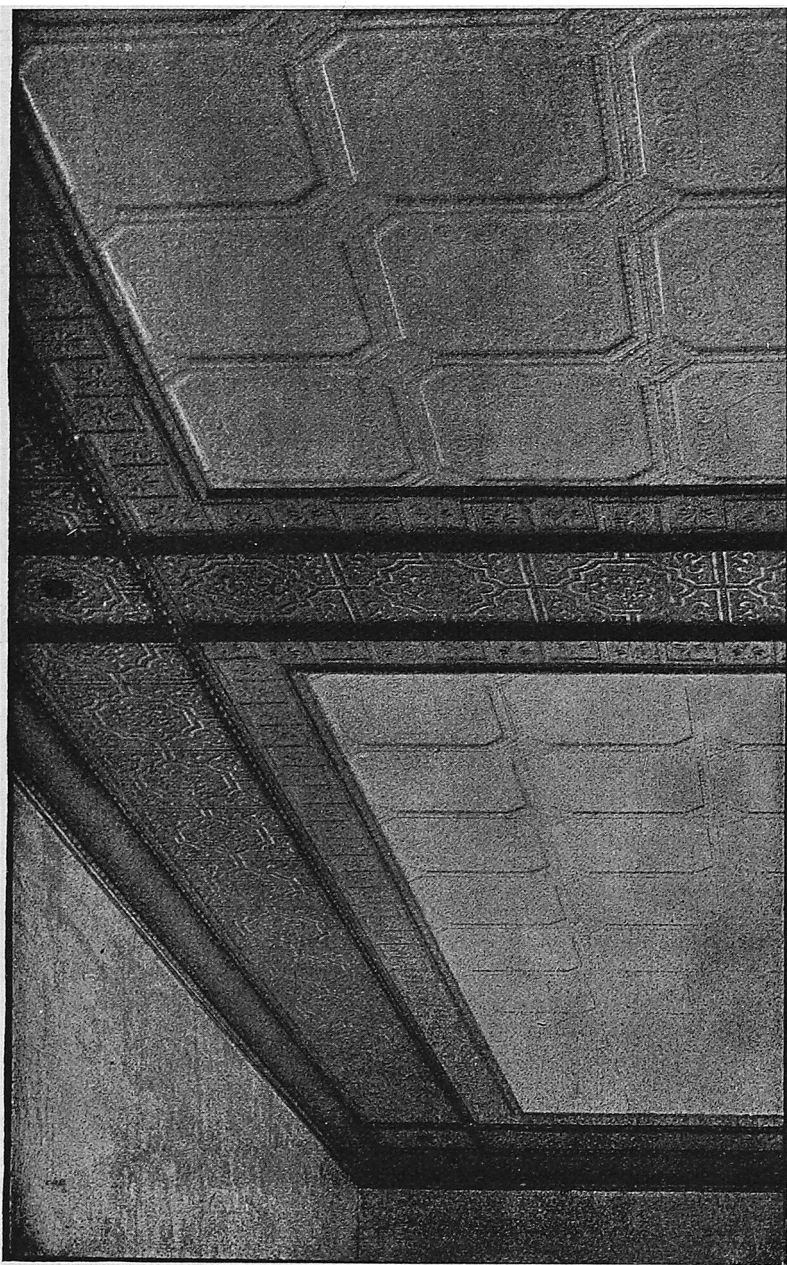
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THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER.

IRON WALLS AND CEILINGS.

THE plan of plastering the interior of our buildings has been so long in use, and has obtained so firm a hold on the public, that although various improvements suggested by practical men as to the manner in which plastering should be done, indicates their recognition of its faulty character, it will probably be a work of time to bring into general use any substitute for it.

It will readily be acknowledged, however, it stains readily; it absorbs smoke, which discolours it; a very little vibration causes it to crack and fall off in patches, rendering it unsightly, while in case of fire the water necessary to put out the fire will wet and soak the plaster, destroying it completely; also, a slight leakage in the roof or the water-pipe, stains it, and finally causes it to crack and fall off. Unsightly, cracked, broken and patched plaster walls are a constant sort of expense and annoyance to every occupant or owner of buildings. Nearly every church-building committee knows something about the annoyance and expense of plastered ceilings, and the wrangles between members who want the best material that can be found, and those who want the cheapest, and who rather enjoy dodging broken plaster.



CEILING IN THE DINING-ROOM OF THE ROCKVILLE, CONN., HOTEL, IN NORTHROP'S METAL RELIEF.

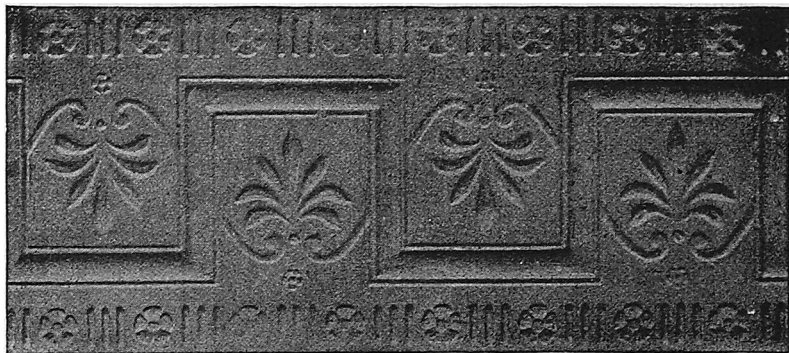
These are facts patent to every one connected with the building trades, as well as to every occupant of building.

Every practical person is convinced and needed, is not a change of method, but a change of material. In view of these facts, we ask the important question "is it not time for owners of buildings and all persons interested in building our stores, our colleges and schools, our public halls and court houses, our churches, and from our architects, who have been brought up on plaster, to stop and consider the adoption of some other material?"

There is no reason why an iron sheeted wall or ceiling made smooth, would not be a perfect background for wall-pape. Such a wall will not stain, crack or fall off like plaster. It will not shrink, or burn like wood. The increasing demand for iron work

and the universal approval and commendation of those who have used such decoration on walls and ceiling, demonstrates it to be a very valuable metal for inside material.

Mr. H. S. Northrop, of 18 Rose street, New York, manufac-



GREEK FRIEZE IN METAL RELIEF.

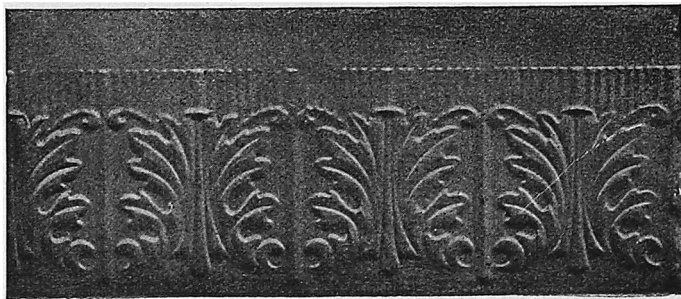
turer of embossed iron walls and ceilings, conducts a large and prosperous business, which was only an experiment a few years ago, demonstrating that an iron covering for walls and ceilings is meeting the wants and tastes of the people wherever it has been introduced.

Mr. Northrop is at present decorating the ceilings of the music hall and billiard room of the new Acme Hall, situated at the corner of 7th avenue and 9th street, Brooklyn. The ceiling of the music hall is decorated in panels of metal relief, running across the room. Each panel has a border of metal plates having a gold ornament on a light green ground. The centre of each panel is in a cream tint, while the bold stiling that surrounds the entire paneling, is of a dark brown tint. The hall is surrounded by a gallery which is suspended by iron stanchions from the ceiling, the underside of which is plated with metal relief in a cream tint.

The billiard hall, immediately underneath the music hall, has a ceiling decorated with metal relief, the design taking the form of two large panels running the entire length of the apartment. The interior of each panel is filled with embossed plates, each plate having its own embossed border, and the whole painted a vellum tint. The borders, which are decorated on either side with heavy Greek mouldings in metal relief, are composed of steel plates having a Greek repeat, and colored a dark brown tint. There is a cornice with an acanthus pattern, also surrounded by moulding, and between this and the panels there is a wide stiling, the plates of which are of a different pattern to those of the panel. The stiling is colored an Indian red tint, and the cornice a greenish drab. The metal ceilings are thoroughly architectural in feeling, and eminently suitable for public buildings of all kinds.

In a drawing room the structural joinery is painted a creamy white. The wall filling is a printed floriated velveteen of a yellow reddish tone. Above there is a clever low relief Tyne-castle canvas frieze, and springing from that a salmon tinted cove leads up to a pale salmon ceiling. This somewhat ready scheme of color enshrine various pieces of rosewood furniture, amongst which is an inlaid cabinet, possessing marquetry decorations which are surprisingly beautiful.

LADIES disposed to construct various articles in pasteboard, may beautify the surfaces and give these a solid appearance by coating them. For a bright mother-of-pearl appearance, use a concentrated cold solution of salt with dextrine, laid on with a brush—the cardboard being first sized; other beautiful hues may be obtained from sulphate of magnesia, acetate of soda and sulphate of tin. These solutions will have the same result when applied to wood and glass.



GREEK CORNICE IN METAL RELIEF.